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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
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RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC 9158
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SUBJECT: SEOUL - MEDIA REACTION

Subject: Media Reaction; Seoul

GLOBAL ECONOMY

"Trade Conflict between U.S. and China Feared to Disrupt
International Efforts to Turn around Global Economy"

Right-of-center JoongAng Ilbo editorialized (09/15): "We believe that the U.S. is primarily to blame for this trade dispute. This is because the U.S. action (to impose safeguard tariffs on Chinese tire imports) breached the G20 agreement to resist trade protectionism. ... Former President George W. Bush rejected four recommendations to invoke safeguard measures against Chinese products based on the judgment that trade protectionism, once started, would spiral out of control. The U.S.'s return to trade protectionism will not only spark international trade disputes but also undermine world trade, further delaying the recovery of the global economy."

TOKOLA